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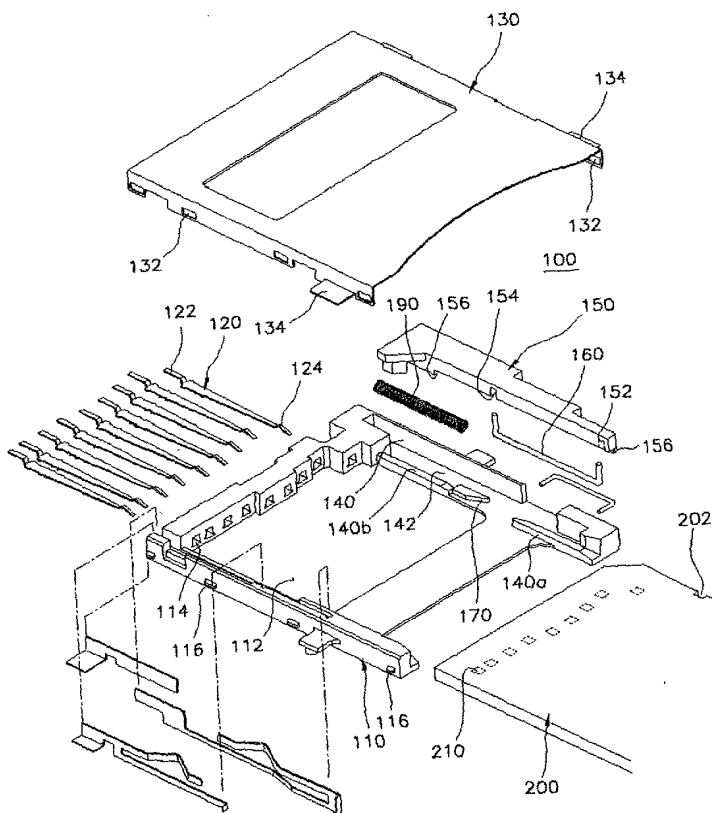
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(54) Title: SECURE DIGITAL MEMORY CARD SOCKET



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is an SD memory card socket for preventing an SD memory card from being accidentally removed from the SD memory card socket. The SD memory card socket includes guide pieces formed on an edge of a connector housing facing a side of the SD memory card so as to form a guide slot therebetween in a longitudinal direction. A slider moves forward and backward in the longitudinal direction along the guide slot when inserting and removing the SD memory card. The slider has a fixing hole formed at a front end and a hidden hole formed at a rear end, the hidden hole being open in a downward direction. A first end of a locking bar is inserted into the fixing hole to allow the locking bar to rotate about the fixing hole, while a second end of the locking bar is inserted into the hidden hole to allow the second end to protrude out of the hidden hole when rotated about the fixing hole. A locking release guide protrusion is formed on an inner face of a guide piece, so as to guide a horizontal part of the locking bar to urge the second end of the locking bar toward insertion into the hidden hole when the slider moves to a home position.



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AMENDED CLAIMS

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1. An SD memory card socket (100) for receiving an SD memory card (200), the card having a hook hole (202) formed on a side thereof, the SD memory card socket comprising:

a connector housing (110) having:

a card receiving part (112) for receiving the SD memory card; and

a plurality of pin holes (114);

a plurality of connecting terminals (120) inserted into the plurality of pin holes for electrical connection to a plurality of connecting terminals of the SD memory card; guide pieces (140) formed on an edge of the connector housing forming a guide slot (142) therebetween in a longitudinal direction of the housing,

a slider (150) slidably movable along the guide slot between a first and second position, the slider having a fixing hole (152) formed at one end thereof and a hidden hole (154) formed at the opposite end thereof;

a locking bar (160) having first and second ends, the first end being inserted into the fixing hole to allow the locking bar to rotate about the fixing hole, and the second end of the locking bar being inserted into the hidden hole such that the second end protrudes out of the hidden hole when the locking bar is rotated about the fixing hole;

a locking guide protrusion (170) formed on the housing for guiding the second end of the locking bar along the hidden hole toward insertion into the hook hole of the SD memory card during insertion of the SD memory card into the card socket; and

a locking release guide protrusion (180) formed on the housing for urging the second end of the locking bar into the hidden hole when the slider moves to its first position.

2. The SD memory card socket of claim 1, wherein the locking guide protrusion is formed with an inclined side surface extending from a front end toward a rear end of the connector housing.

3. The SD memory card socket of claim 2, wherein the locking release guide protrusion is formed with an inclined side surface extending from the rear end of the housing toward the front end of the housing.

4. The SD memory card socket of claim 1, further comprising slide pieces (156) protruding downward from a bottom surface of the slider so as to separate the bottom surface of the slider from a bearing surface of the guide slot.

5. The SD memory card socket of claim 4, wherein locations of the locking guide protrusion and the locking release guide protrusion are determined with reference to a spacing between a bottom surface of the slider and the bearing surface of the guide slot.

6. The SD memory card socket as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a cover (130) for covering an upper part of the connector housing and fitting nails (134) formed at sides of the cover for soldering to corresponding contacts of a printed circuit board.

7. The SD memory card socket of claim 1, wherein the locking bar has a horizontal portion extending between the fixing hole and the hidden hole, and the first and second ends of the locking bar are bent upwardly from the horizontal portion.